



WESTPORT CONNECTICUT

PLANNING & ZONING

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September 7, 2007

State of Connecticut
Connecticut Siting Council
Ten Franklin Square
New Britain, CT 06051

To: Council Members:

From: Eleanor Lowenstein, Co-chair
Westport Connecticut Planning and Zoning Commission

By Fax
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CONNECTICUT
SITING COUNCIL

Re: Petition No. 809 – Extenet Systems, Inc. petition for a declaratory ruling that the Connecticut Siting Council does not have jurisdiction or, in the alternative, that no Certificate of Environmental Compatibility and Public Need is required for the proposed construction of a Distributed Antenna System along the Merritt Parkway from the New York State line to Westport, Connecticut.

The Westport Planning and Zoning Commission finds that in general, the Distributive Antenna System (DAS) is a good alternative to very tall cell towers. We have no objection to the type of system at its current standards, attached to lines crossing streets and roads on existing poles, but have the following observations and recommendations.

- While this particular Extenet Distributed Antennae Systems is to be on the Merritt Parkway, these types of systems will most likely be expanded to local roads.
- A Distributed Antennae System should have oversight by either the Connecticut Siting Council or municipalities, either entirely by one of those entities or oversight based on type of system. Pole heights, types of antenna and location of support boxes must have oversight.
- Following the pattern of control for cell towers in Connecticut, we suggest the Connecticut Siting Council have control over DAS systems using new stand-alone poles with antennae at the top of the pole. Since municipalities now have review of cell antenna not under the jurisdiction of the Connecticut Siting Council, DAS systems that place antenna on wires crossing streets and roads attached to existing electric/telephone poles or new poles should be under the control of the municipalities.

Thank you for taking our comments.

Cc: Gordon Joseloff, Westport First Selectman
Westport Planning and Zoning Commissioners
Larry Bradley, Westport Planning and Zoning Director